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ar·ti·cle  (är tĭ-kəl)

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n.

1. An individual thing or element of a class; a particular object or item: *an article of clothing; articles of food.*
2. A particular section or item of a series in a written document, as in a contract, constitution, or treaty.
3. A nonfictional literary composition that forms an independent part of a publication, as of a newspaper or magazine.
4. *Grammar*
 - a. The part of speech used to indicate nouns and to specify their application.
 - b. Any of the words belonging to this part of speech. In English, the indefinite articles are *a* and *an* and the definite article is *the*.
5. A particular part or subject; a specific matter or point.

tr.v. **ar·ti·cled**, **ar·ti·cling**, **ar·ti·cles**

To bind by articles set forth in a contract, such as one of apprenticeship.

[Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *articulus*, joint, article, diminutive of *artus*, joint (translation of Greek *arthron*, joint, article); see **ar-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

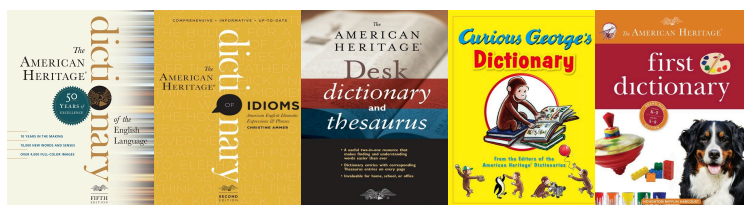
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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